

Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 10:03 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: docket number 2018-358-WS

Dear Ms. Joyce M. Dodd ,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2018-358-WS - Verified Application of Carolina Water Service, Incorporated for Approval of Annual Rate Adjustment Mechanisms and Petition for an Accounting Order to Defer Expenses

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-358-WS - Verified Application of Carolina Water Service, Incorporated for Approval of Annual Rate Adjustment Mechanisms and Petition for an Accounting Order to Defer Expenses - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116911>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
 Becky Latimer
 Clerk's Office/Administrative Coordinator
 Public Service Commission of South Carolina
 803-896-5100
Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text PSCAGENDAS to 39492



* Required Fields

Date: *6/6/2019

Letter of Protest
in Docket 2018-358-WS

Protestant Information:

Name *Joyce M. Dodd

Mailing Address *

City*Lake Wylie

State* SC

Zip * 29710-1292

Phone *

Email: *

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

My personal home and a second rental home are both customers of Blue Granite

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

Blue Granite (Utilities Inc.) received both a rate increase and a contract renewal within the last 12 months, and is petitioning for another increase. In the less than 5 years we have been a customer of this water company, our 12-month rolling average water bill has increased from \$79.13 (actual bill was \$38.32 for Purchased Water and \$45.23 for the at-that-time part-fixed and part-variable Waste Water treatment) to the latest calculation in May of \$108.50 (\$48.86 Purchased Water and **\$65.08** FIXED Waste Water treatment). While our daily usage has hardly changed, we are not nearly as careful about wasting water as we were initially, since the fixed portion of our bill will not change regardless of our usage.

This company's pricing is not structured to encourage water conservation, and their attitude is extremely high-handed. We have lived in many other municipalities, and are amazed at the leeway and poor business practices followed by this water company. I am a retired managerial accountant, and have helped entities in the for-profit and not-for-profit worlds to understand their cost and pricing to achieve goals. This company appears to have never studied and reserved for replacement costs, repairs and maintenance, nor growth in this area. Because of their poor planning, the customer is expected to pick up their slack and cover normal ongoing business costs for which they failed to adequately to set aside reserves.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding , if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

I undoubtedly have maintained the most comprehensive Excel workbook of every component of our personal utilities – gas, electricity, and water -, each collected and analyzed independently. The numbers and patterns tell a depressing story about Blue Granite (Utilities Inc.) as a business. To allow them to continue to increase rates is a travesty that doesn't address the root of the problem – you cannot have one business (Rock Hill) pull water from the lake, a second (York Co.) purchase water from the first, then a third purchase water from the second without piling one cost on top of another and kicking the can down the road.

I want to buy water from the primary source, or at least the secondary source. This area is growing too fast to allow Blue Granite to continue to attempt doing what they have demonstrated they are not able to do – consistently provide reliable water at a fair and logically-based price.